IN THE CLAIMS

1.-70. (Canceled)

71. (Previously Presented) A method of providing digital photographic images by a server, comprising:

receiving a request to view a digital photographic image from a client, the request including at least one of a session identifier, a user identifier or a photo identifier;

identifying a device type of the client and an available communication bandwidth for transmissions between the server and the client;

determining capabilities of the client based on the identified device type and the available communication bandwidth;

selecting an image format appropriate to the capabilities of the client and the available communication bandwidth;

determining whether a version of the digital photographic image having the selected image format is stored by the server;

if the version of the digital photographic image having the selected image format is not stored at the server, generating said version of the digital photographic image by decompressing the digital photographic image to generate a bitmap in a color scheme that was used to generate the digital photographic image, converting the bitmap of the digital photographic image to a standard intermediate format, and mapping the standard intermediate format of the digital photographic image to the selected image format; and

transmitting the version of the digital photographic image having the selected image format to the client.

72.   (New) The method of claim 71, wherein at least one of the device type or the capabilities of the client are reported to the server by the client.

73.   (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising:

comparing the device type of the client to a knowledge database to determine the capabilities of the client.

74.   (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising:

receiving user preferences; and

selecting the image format based on the user preferences.

75.   (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising:

storing the capabilities of the client in an information record once the capabilities of the client are determined, wherein the information record facilitates determining capabilities of the client for future transactions.

76.   (New) The method of claim 71, further comprising:

inferring a communication transport used for communications between the server and the client based on the device type.

77.   (New) The method of claim 71, wherein determining the capabilities of the client includes determining an annotation format supported by the client, the method further comprising:

dynamically formatting annotations associated with the image to the annotation format that is supported by the client.

78.   (New) A computer readable medium including instructions that, when executed by a processing system, cause the processing system to perform a method of providing digital photographic images by a server comprising:

receiving a request to view a digital photographic image from a client, the request including at least one of a session identifier, a user identifier or a photo identifier;

identifying a device type of the client and an available communication bandwidth for transmissions between the server and the client;

determining capabilities of the client based on the identified device type;

selecting an image format based on at least one of the capabilities of the client and the available communication bandwidth;

determining whether a version of the digital photographic image having the selected image format is stored by the server;

if the version of the digital photographic image having the selected image format is not stored at the server, generating said version of the digital photographic image by decompressing the digital photographic image to generate a bitmap in a color scheme that was used to generate the digital photographic image, converting the bitmap of the digital photographic image to a standard intermediate format, and mapping the standard intermediate format of the digital photographic image to the selected image format; and

transmitting the version of the digital photographic image having the selected image format to the client.

79.   (New) The computer readable medium of claim 78, wherein at least one of the device type or the capabilities of the client are reported to the server by the client.

80.   (New) The computer readable medium of claim 78, the method further comprising:

comparing the device type of the client to a knowledge database to determine the capabilities of the client.

81.   (New) The computer readable medium of claim 78, the method further comprising:

receiving user preferences; and

selecting the image format based on the user preferences.

82.   (New) The computer readable medium of claim 78, the method further comprising:

storing the capabilities of the client in an information record once the capabilities of the client are determined, wherein the information record facilitates determining capabilities of the client for future transactions.

83.   (New) The computer readable medium of claim 78, the method further comprising:

inferring a communication transport used for communications between the server and the client based on the device type.

84.   (New) The computer readable medium of claim 78, wherein determining the capabilities of the client includes determining an annotation format supported by the client, the method further comprising:

dynamically formatting annotations associated with the image to the annotation format that is supported by the client.

85.   (New) A computing apparatus comprising:

at least one of a photo storage or a photo cache to store a digital photographic image;

a photo server to receive a request to view the digital photographic image from a client, the request including at least one of a session identifier, a user identifier or a photo identifier;

a device profile manager to identify a device type of the client and an available communication bandwidth for transmissions between the photographic server and the client, and to determine capabilities of the client based on the identified device type;

the photo server to select an image format appropriate to the capabilities of the client and the available communication bandwidth, and to determine whether a version of the digital photographic image having the selected image format is stored in the photo storage or the photo cache; and

a photo translator to generate said version of the digital photographic image by decompressing the digital photographic image to generate a bitmap in a color scheme that was used to generate the digital photographic image, to convert the bitmap of the digital photographic image to a standard intermediate format, and to map the standard intermediate format of the digital photographic image to the selected image format if the version of the digital photographic image having the selected image format is not stored at the server;

the photo server to transmit the version of the digital photographic image having the selected image format to the client.

86.   (New) The computing apparatus of claim 85, wherein at least one of the device type or the capabilities of the client are reported to the photo server by the client.

87.   (New) The computing apparatus of claim 85, further comprising:

the device profile manager to compare the device type of the client to a knowledge database to determine the capabilities of the client.

88.   (New) The computing apparatus of claim 85, further comprising:

a user data manager to receive user preferences;

the photo server to select the image format based on the user preferences.

89.   (New) The computing apparatus of claim 85, further comprising:

the device profile manager to store the capabilities of the client in an information record once the capabilities of the client are determined, wherein the information record facilitates determining capabilities of the client for future transactions.

90.   (New) The computing apparatus of claim 85, further comprising:

the photo server to infer a communication transport used for communications between the server and the client based on the device type.

91.   (New) The computing apparatus of claim 85, wherein determining the capabilities of the client includes determining an annotation format supported by the client, the computing apparatus further comprising:

the photo translator to dynamically format annotations associated with the image to the annotation format that is supported by the client.